

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-3, 5, 7, 11-13, 15, 21, 22 and 25, and cancel claims 4, 14, 23, 24, 31-60 and 64-66. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in this application.

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. (Currently Amended) A robot system, comprising:
2 a robot that has a camera and a monitor;
3 a first remote station that has a monitor and can access and control said robot; ~~and,~~
4 a second remote station that has a monitor and can access and control said robot
5 independently of said first remote station ~~and; and,~~ includes
6 an arbitrator that can control access and control of said robot by said first and second
7 remote stations, said arbitrator provides a message that is displayed by said second remote station
8 monitor.
- 1 2. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said ~~arbitrator~~ message
2 includes a notification mechanism.
- 1 3. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, further comprising a broadband
2 network coupled to said robot and said first and second remote stations ~~wherein said arbitrator~~
3 ~~includes a timeout mechanism.~~
- 1 4. (Canceled)

1 5. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said ~~arbiter~~ arbiter message
2 includes a call back mechanism.

1 6. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said second remote
2 station can access said robot, and said first and second remote stations each have a priority and
3 said arbitrator provides robot access to said remote station with a highest priority.

1 7. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 6, wherein said first and second
2 remote stations may be given priority as a local user, a doctor, a caregiver, a family member, or a
3 service user.

1 8. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said robot operates in
2 either an exclusive mode or a sharing mode.

1 9. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said first remote station
2 transmits a communication for said robot that is initially transmitted to said second remote
3 station.

1 10. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said first remote station
2 sends a communication for said robot that is initially transmitted to said robot.

1 11. (Currently Amended) A robot system, comprising:
2 a robot that has a camera and a monitor;
3 a first remote station that has a monitor and can access and control said robot; and,

4 a second remote station that has a monitor and can access and control said robot
5 independently of said first remote station and ~~includes~~ arbitration means for controlling access
6 and control of said robot by said first and second remote stations and displaying a message that is
7 displayed by said second control station monitor.

1 12. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 11, wherein said ~~arbitrator means~~
2 message includes a notification ~~means for notifying said first remote station that said second~~
3 ~~remote station is requesting access to said robot.~~

1 13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 11, further comprising a broadband
2 network coupled to said robot and said first and second remote stations ~~wherein said arbitrator~~
3 ~~means includes timeout means that creates a time interval in which one of said remote stations~~
4 ~~must relinquish access to said robot.~~

1 14. (Canceled) .

1 15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 11, wherein said ~~arbitrator means~~
2 message includes a call back ~~means for providing a message to one of said remote stations that~~
3 ~~said robot can be accessed.~~

1 16. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein said second remote
2 station can access said robot, and said first and second remote stations each have a priority and
3 said arbitrator means provides robot access to said remote station with a highest priority.

1 17. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 16, wherein said remote stations may
2 be given priority as a local user, a doctor, a caregiver, a family member, or a service user.

1 18. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein said robot operates in
2 either an exclusive mode or a sharing mode.

1 19. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein said first remote station
2 transmits a communication for said robot that is initially transmitted to said second remote
3 station.

1 20. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein said first remote station
2 sends a communication for said robot that is initially transmitted to said robot.

1 21. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling access to a remote controlled
2 robot, comprising:
3 transmitting a request to access and control a robot from a first remote station;
4 determining whether the first remote station should have access and control of the robot
5 at a second remote station that can access the robot;
6 allowing access and control of the robot;
7 transmitting video images between the robot and the first remote station;
8 ~~terminating access to the robot by the first remote station;~~
9 transmitting a request to access and control the robot from the second station
10 independently of the first remote station; ~~and,~~
11 displaying a message on a second remote station monitor; and,
12 allowing access and control of the robot by the second remote station.

1 22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein the displayed message
2 includes a notification message~~further comprising requesting access to the robot from the second~~
3 ~~remote station and notifying the first remote station of the request.~~

1 Claims 23-24 (Canceled)

1 25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein the displayed message
2 includes ~~further comprising transmitting a call back message from the second remote station to~~
3 ~~the first remote station to indicate the granting of access to the robot.~~

1 26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the access request
2 includes a priority that is evaluated by the second remote station to determine access to the robot.

1 27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the remote stations
2 may be given priority as a local user, a doctor, a caregiver, a family member, or a service user.

1 28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the robot operates in
2 either an exclusive mode or a sharing mode.

1 29. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the access request is initially
2 transmitted to the second remote station.

1 30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the access request is
2 initially transmitted to the robot.

1 Claims 31-60 (Canceled)

- 1 61. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the robot is mobile.
- 1 62. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein said robot is mobile.
- 1 63. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, wherein said robot is mobile.
- 1 Claims 64-66 (Canceled)